

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT CHATTANOOGA
COLLEGE OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

Clinical Internship

PHYT 790 001

Spring 2010

January 4-April 16, 2010

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Office hours M-F 9:00-11:30

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Course Description

This clinical internship is the final course of the curriculum. Students will work under the direct supervision of a physical therapist focusing on a particular patient/client population selected by the student. The desired outcome is for the student to reach entry-level performance in patient/client management. (Prerequisite: PHYT 734) (600 clinical hours)(9 credit hours)

Clinical Performance Criteria

The student:

- 1) Practices in a safe manner that minimizes risk to patient, self and others.
- 2) Demonstrates professional behavior in all situations.
- 3) Practices in a manner consistent with established legal and professional standards and ethical guidelines.
- 4) Communicates in ways that are congruent with situational needs.
- 5) Adapts delivery of physical therapy services with consideration for patients' differences, values, preferences, and needs.
- 6) Participates in self-assessment to improve clinical and professional performance.
- 7) Applies current knowledge, theory, clinical judgment, and the patient's values and perspective in patient management.
- 8) Determines with each patient encounter the patient's need for further examination or consultation by a physical therapist or referral to another health care professional.
- 9) Performs a physical therapy examination.
- 10) Evaluates data from the patient examination (history, systems review, and tests and measures) to make clinical judgments.
- 11) Determines a diagnosis and prognosis that guides future patient management.
- 12) Establishes a physical therapy plan of care that is safe, effective, patient-centered, and evidence-based.
- 13) Performs physical therapy interventions in a competent manner.
- 14) Educates others (patients, caregivers, staff, students, other health care providers, business and industry representatives, school systems)) using relevant and effective teaching methods.
- 15) Produces quality documentation in a timely manner to support the delivery of physical therapy services.
- 16) Selects and analyzes data from selected outcome measures in a manner that supports accurate analysis of individual patient and group outcomes.

- 17) Participates in the financial management (budgeting, billing and reimbursement, time space, equipment, marketing, public relations) of the physical therapy service consistent with regulatory, legal, and facility guidelines.
- 18) Directs and supervises personnel to meet patient's goals and expected outcomes according to legal standards and ethical guidelines.

Criteria for Grading

The evaluation instrument to be used in all Clinical Education courses is the APTA Physical Therapist Clinical Performance Instrument (CPI). The result for Clinical Internship will be using letter grades. For a grade of A, the student must achieve entry-level performance on each of the 18 clinical performance criteria using the Web CPI scale.

In addition, for successful completion of the course, the student must:

- Maintain communication with the DCE at all times during the clinical education experience. The DCE is the course coordinator for all clinical education courses and will serve as advisor, facilitator, and monitor.
- Contact the Center Coordinator of Clinical Education (CCCE) prior to the beginning of the experience to confirm arrangements
- Review the Clinical Center Information Form for the assigned site. These forms are found in the DCE's office.
- Provide evidence of health insurance coverage.
- Meet all health and safety requirements of the clinical education assigned site. The sites require specific immunizations and/or health status screening prior to the beginning of a clinical education experience. These requirements differ. As an example, some sites require TB tests to be completed a month prior to the experience, while other sites will accept tests completed several months earlier than the start date of the assignment. Review the Medical Information section of the assigned site's Clinical Center Information Form. It is the responsibility of the student to identify the requirements and provide evidence of completion to the facility and/or educational program. Failure to meet this requirement will result in a delayed beginning of the experience. This may jeopardize timely completion of the course. Students are advised to maintain their own copies of all immunization records and physical exams, etc.
- Maintain current CPR certification.
- Forward criminal background checks to sites if required by that site. Some states require all healthcare workers to provide this evidence. Check the Clinical Center Information Form to determine if your assigned site has this requirement.
- Attend all assigned days of the clinical experience. Students are expected to work the clinic's schedule, regardless of university closings. If the student is not able to attend the clinical experience for any reason, the student must notify the DCE and the clinical instructor or CCCE prior to 8:00 a.m. that day. If voice mail is utilized initially, it is the responsibility of the student to follow-up with the clinical instructor. Missed time may delay completion of degree requirements and could jeopardize the student's continuation in the clinical experience.
- Schedule make-up time for any absences. If the site is unable to accommodate, the student must contact the DCE within one week of the absence to determine additional remedial work.

- In the event the student will be late to clinic, the student must contact the DCE, CI, and CCCE prior to the assigned beginning time. Criteria #2 in the CPI includes assessment of punctuality. If tardiness is a significant concern, it will result in a failing grade for the clinical education course.
- Complete a self-assessment at mid-term and final using the Web CPI. You must review your self-assessment with the Clinical Instructor.
- Complete an evaluation of the clinical site and your clinical instructor. Review the results with the CI before returning the evaluation to the Director of Clinical Education.
- Complete all assignments made by CI willingly, thoroughly, promptly, and satisfactorily. The consequence of failing to meet this requirement may result in interruption of the clinical education course.
- Take necessary supplies (goniometer, reflex hammer, measuring tape, stethoscope, and gait belt) and texts to clinical setting each day of the experience.
- Adhere to all policies and procedures of the clinical site. Failure to do so may result in termination of the experience.

Other letter grades will be awarded for students not meeting the A criteria. The grade will depend on the number of items completed and oral and written feedback from the clinical instructor. If a student is judged to be at risk and significant concerns are indicated on any of the items, a grade of F will be earned in the course.

Attention: If you are a student with a disability (i.e., physical, learning, psychiatric, etc) and think that you might need assistance or an academic accommodation in this class or any other class, please contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at 425-4006 or go to the office- 102 Frist Hall.

If you find that personal problems, career indecision, study and time management difficulties, etc. are adversely affecting your successful progress at UTC, please contact the Counseling and Career Planning Center at 425-4438 or stop by the office in room 338 of the University Center.